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Cable dated:2005-08-17T21:24:00]C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 003571SIPDISEB FOR A/S WAYNE; WHA FOR MONSERRATE; INL FOR AGUILEF  
Classified By: Ambassador J. Curtis Struble. Reason: 1.4 (b,d)

1. (SBU) SUMMARY: Violent protests against British firm Majaz,s exploration for copper near the Ecuador border have resulted in three deaths a
2. (U) Sporadic protests began a year ago in the Minera Majaz exploration zone along the Rio Blanco, on the Ecuadorian border in northern Piur
3. (SBU) On 8/6 Ronderos kidnapped two Majaz employees and took them to villages where they were beaten. The two were released, but on 8/14 rc
4. (C) Conversations between Mission officers, MEM VM Mucho, Majaz executives, NGO representatives and PNP officials yielded a common theme th
5. (SBU) The Peruvian National Police have said publicly that they believe opium traffickers have also played a role in stoking the violence -
6. (C) Comment: This area of northern Peru is in fact a priority target of our efforts to collect intelligence on poppy cultivation and opium
7. (C) NGO XXXXXXXXXXXX has becomeXXXXXXXXXXXX frustrated XXXXXXXXXXXX in the Majaz community negotiations. XXXXXXXXXXXX told us that Majaz
8. (U) Minera Majaz is the Peruvian subsidiary of British firm Monterrico Metals. Majaz has spent \$20 million exploring for copper for over a
9. (U) Embassy Lima has recently stepped up efforts to improve coordination with the embassies of Canada, Great Britain, Australia, Switzerlar
10. (C) Comment: The anti-mining forces in action in Majaz represent a strange group of bedfellows indeed -- the Catholic church, violent radi